

Seth M. M. Stodder

Seth Stodder is a lawyer, writer, law professor, and frequent commentator on national security issues, borders and immigration, international trade, privacy, and constitutional law. Until recently, he served in the Obama Administration as Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Border, Immigration & Trade Policy and, prior to that, as Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Threat Prevention & Security Policy. In those roles, he led teams advising DHS leadership and developing policy on border security, immigration and visa policy, trade, screening and vetting of individuals for security purposes, law enforcement matters, and international information sharing. He oversaw the U.S. Visa Waiver Program, represented DHS on the Committee on Foreign Investments in the United States (CFIUS), and served as Co-Chair of the DHS Social Media Task Force, stood up in the wake of the San Bernardino terrorist attacks. He also oversaw all DHS international engagements with the countries of the Western Hemisphere, as well as other countries around the world.

Earlier in his career, he served in the Bush Administration as Director of Policy and Planning for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, in the immediate wake of the 9/11 attacks. He has worked in private law practice, taught national security and counterterrorism law at the University of Southern California Law School, was a German Marshall Memorial Fellow, and is a Member of the Pacific Council on International Policy and the U.S. Supreme Court Bar. He received his J.D. from the University of Southern California Law School, and his B.A. from Haverford College.